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PATENT APPLICATION  
09/848,975



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: WU, et al.  
Serial No.: 09/848,975  
Filing Date: May 3, 2001  
Examiner: Charles S. Bushey  
Group Art Unit: 1724  
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
IMPROVING A FRACTIONATION PROCESS

MAR 28 2003  
GROUP 1700

Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D.C. 20231-9999

Dear Sir:

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| <p align="center"><b>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</b><br/>By Express Mail Cert. No. EV 193178981 US</p> <p>I hereby certify that this communication is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231-9999.</p> <p align="center"><u>Willie Jiles</u><br/>Willie Jiles</p> <p>Date: <u>March 21, 2003</u></p> |
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**EXTENSION OF TIME**

Applicants hereby take an extension of time for responding to the Office Action dated October 23, 2002 for two (2) months from January 23, 2003 to March 23, 2003. A check in the amount of \$ 410.00 is enclosed to cover said extension of time fee.

**RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Applicants hereby respond to the Office Action mailed October 23, 2002.

**AMENDMENT**

Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments. For the convenience of the Examiner, all pending claims of the present Application are shown below whether or not an amendment has been made.